
From: Tony Bennett
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:27 PM
To: Heather Neal
Subject: Re: Grades

They need to understand that anything less than an A for Christel House compromises all of our accountability work. We may well lose Pence on this as well...

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 12, 2012, at 1:24 PM, "Heather Neal" <hneal@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Oh, crap. We cannot release until this is resolved. I will call Dale.

Sent from my Kate Spade iPhone

On Sep 12, 2012, at 1:16 PM, "Tony Bennett" <tb@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Wants you to see the e-mail exchange I just had with Goobs. This will be a HUGE problem for us.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Tony Bennett" <tb@doe.in.gov>
Date: September 12, 2012 1:14:33 PM EDT
To: "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov>
Subject: Re: Grades

That will be problematic because we told Christel and Bosma that given the 162 day threshold, their data made them an A.

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 12, 2012, at 1:13 PM, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov> wrote:

- > Not yet...since they are a combined school (K-10) it takes the longest,
- > I have asked the team to give me their results ASAP. I think we should
- > have those tonight and I will share.
- >
- > With the inclusion of their adding 10th grade this year I would not
- > necessarily expect an A, but it is still possible. they will for sure
- > be at least a B

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Tony Bennett
> Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:11 PM
> To: Jon Gubera
> Subject: Re: Grades
>
> Have you been able to take a peek at Christel House?
>
> Sent from my iPad
>
> On Sep 12, 2012, at 1:10 PM, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov> wrote:
>
>> K-8 finished.
>> HS finishing today. will have reports to share by tomorrow. looking
>> like a Friday launch.
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Tony Bennett
>> Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 1:07 PM
>> To: Jon Gubera; Heather Neal; Dale Chu; Will Krebs
>> Subject: Grades
>>
>> Any update on the rest of the grades?
>>
>> Sent from my iPad

From: Tony Bennett
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:31 AM
To: Jon Gubera; Heather Neal
Cc: Dale Chu
Subject: RE: Christel House

All,

I just need to get this off my chest. I NEVER blame anyone except myself for anything that is said and done by this department. I must say that this situation is very frustrating and disappointing to me. I cannot count the number of times we have been in meetings with Christel, The Chamber, Brian Bosma, David Long, and others when I have said that we count Christel House as an A school. I have repeatedly said to all of them that we checked their data and given the 162 day calculation we were certain they are an A school. We specifically cited Christel House, Herron, Signature and Tindley as A schools, and everyone sat around those tables nodding their heads in agreement as I defended our system with that argument.

Now here we are and they are not an A school. We have two problems. First, I either lied or twisted the truth in order to get what we want. Regardless, neither of those are things I do. Our second problem is that legislative leadership as well as our critics of A-F are going to use this against us to undo our accountability metrics through legislation. Furthermore, as I said earlier, we have NO chance of advancing accountability during the session with this problem in front of us.

If you can't tell, I am more than a little miffed about this. I hope we come to the meeting today with solutions and not excuses and/or explanations for me to wiggle myself out of the repeated lies I have told over the past 6 months.

Thanks,
TB

From: Jon Gubera
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 8:17 AM
To: Heather Neal; Tony Bennett
Cc: Dale Chu
Subject: RE: Christel House

This is first year they have had 10th grade (last year they were K-9...they keep adding a grade each year) so there are no ECA data results to compare.

At the Elementary/Middle School Level their E/LA and math both went up a little bit, E/LA from 80% to 81% and math 85% to 87%.

From: Heather Neal
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:51 AM
To: Tony Bennett
Cc: Jon Gubera; Dale Chu
Subject: Re: Christel House

Do we have last year's data for the sake of comparison? I would like to know if the school's performance decreased dramatically.

Also, how many new high schools (opened in the last three years) do we have?

Thanks,

Sent from my Kate Spade iPhone

On Sep 13, 2012, at 6:56 AM, "Tony Bennett" <tb@doe.in.gov> wrote:

My bottom line that if that is our answer we must be prepared through legislation to lose our entire PL-221 efforts to date and have no hope for improving accountability this coming session.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2012, at 2:35 AM, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Ok, here is their breakdown...

They served grades K-10 in 2011-12 so they are a combined school but do not have any graduates. So their grade is a combination of the standard E/MS model and the HS 9&10 model which only counts ECA proficiency.

E/MS results: 3.00 on E/LA (no growth bonuses) and 4.00 on math (bottom 25% bonus) = 3.50 points (B)

HS results: 2.00 on E/LA (70% pass rate) and 0.00 on math (33% pass rate) = 1.00 points (D)

Final Combined results: E/MS 3.50 x .76 (76% of school is in grades 3-8) = 2.66 + HS 1.00 x .24 (24% of school is in high school) = .24. Thus overall grade is 2.66+.24 = 2.9 (C)

Bottom line: their terrible 10th grade Algebra I results (33% passing) was the principal factor in earning a C grade.

90 25 90

Jon Gubera

Chief Accountability Officer
Indiana Department of Education
jgubera@doe.in.gov
317-234-6849

From: Jon Gubera
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 9:21 AM
To: Will Krebs; Tony Bennett; Dale Chu; Heather Neal
Subject: RE: john marshall

Option one works. I have notes in red on the attached doc.

This would eliminate the HS points and ensure CH receives at least a B.

Finished Growth analysis and there is nothing in "rounding" that can help...ran every possible scenario... they are just too many students away from getting the growth bonus in either subgroup for E/LA.

From: Will Krebs
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:52 AM
To: Tony Bennett; Dale Chu; Heather Neal; Jon Gubera
Subject: Fwd: john marshall

I think option 1 will allow us to separate christel house 9/10 results from the EMS results.

Will
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Will Krebs" <wkrebs@doe.in.gov>
Date: September 13, 2012 4:06:10 PM EDT
To: "Dale Chu" <dchu@doe.in.gov>, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov>
Subject: RE: john marshall

I hope that's the case. Here are two options. Let me know what you guys think and if I need to go back to the drawing board.

From: Dale Chu
Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 4:00 PM
To: Will Krebs; Jon Gubera
Subject: RE: john marshall

John Marshall is a 7-12, but I'm pretty sure they applied early on to separate the E/MS piece from the HS piece. Two school numbers, I think. Jon can provide more detail.

From: Will Krebs

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:23 PM

To: Jon Gubera

Cc: Dale Chu

Subject: RE: john marshall

And nothing from the EMS model?

From: Jon Gubera

Sent: Thursday, September 13, 2012 1:22 PM

To: Will Krebs

Cc: Dale Chu

Subject: Re: john marshall

Just percent passing English 10 and Alg I

Jon Gubera

On Sep 13, 2012, at 1:20 PM, "Will Krebs" <wkrebs@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Could I get the information for all the factors that are included in the calculation for John Marshall's grade? I need to see that to make sure my logic isn't kicking them out. In other words, I need to know which factors (e.g. graduation rate) are playing into their grade. I won't be able to look at it until 3:30 ish, so not a huge rush. Thanks!

Will Krebs

Director of Policy and Research

Indiana Department of Education

wkrebs@doe.in.gov

(317) 234-0218

From: Dale Chu
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2012 8:23 PM
To: Tony Bennett
Cc: Heather Neal
Subject: Re: updated grades released

I told Heather this earlier: while I consider myself fairly stubborn, I don't think I've met anyone as stubborn as Goobs.

Sent from dc's iPad

On Sep 21, 2012, at 8:20 PM, "Tony Bennett" <tb@doe.in.gov> wrote:

By reading this, I get the opinion that he thinks he was right...

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov>
Date: September 21, 2012 8:18:09 PM EDT
To: "Tony Bennett" <tb@doe.in.gov>
Subject: RE: updated grades released

Tony,

I sent the last email for everyone else, but I need to let you know that the entire second floor over here were shocked and thrown off our pressing and most important task of the year by Rich's antics at 330pm today – which definitely were not necessary and actually cut down our productivity.

Sorry, but I have enough curveballs to deal with on getting this grades out and correct (like a vendor issue on IMAST discovered last night around 8pm and confirmed by this morning at 7am that took the entire day to fix) that I do not have much patience with someone from our own team making it unnecessarily more difficult.

No one on this planet is more disappointed with the delay and issues on the grades than me (I am completely humiliated by the whole situation), but I will continue work hard to get them correct and finished.

Heading home...maybe I can see my new kid for the first time in three weeks

while he is awake.

Goobs

From: Tony Bennett

Sent: Friday, September 21, 2012 7:53 PM

To: Jon Gubera

Cc: Heather Neal; Dale Chu; Stephanie Sample; Will Krebs

Subject: Re: updated grades released

This is great work. I must add that I am not sure why the last part was necessary.

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 21, 2012, at 7:47 PM, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Attached is the spreadsheet. Look at tabs at bottom. I haven't had time to do summary data for each tab but I did for "All Schools" and "Charters"

Note that for Charters summary excludes the Damar, Excel and the Options. With those four excluded, you can now say over half of Charters are C or better (couldn't on Wed).

Charters

	Friday	Wed	Difference
A	20%	20%	0%
B	11%	11%	0%
C	25%	18%	7%
D	16%	22%	-5%
F	27%	29%	-2%

Note that the total number from Wed to Friday for all schools changes because I clipped off about 40 schools in my haste to push out spread sheet on Wed. Not to worry, the reports in LC have always had every school. This latest sheet includes those other forty schools and the changes from the IMAST fix.

All Schools (pub and private)

	Friday	Wed	Difference
A	41%	39%	2%
B	20%	20%	0%
C	20%	21%	-1%
D	12%	12%	0%
F	7%	8%	-1%

If you have any questions about the Growth Only model, see Rich Hogue, but only while his entire division and the divisions working

alongside his division are in the middle of a critical moment of their biggest project that requires the utmost and sustained attention to thousands of details, and under a hard deadline. And when you do it, make sure you are on speaker phone in the middle of his whole division so everyone is thrown off task for at least 30 minutes.



From: Heather Neal
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2012 5:26 PM
To: Jon Gubera
Cc: Dale Chu; Stephanie Sample; Tony Bennett
Subject: Re: updated grades released

I need the new spreadsheet reflecting the changes as soon as we have it. Thanks.

Sent from my Kate Spade iPhone

On Sep 21, 2012, at 5:18 PM, "Jon Gubera" <jgubera@doe.in.gov> wrote:

Just sent the following note out to the field. Some grades did change (up), I am working on the updated spreadsheet now to send y'all.

The issue surrounding students that took IMAST in one subject and ISTEP on the other has been fixed. Student, school, and corporation level results have been updated in Learning Connection. Please re-examine your results.

Also note that schools that qualify for the Growth Only model option shall receive a notice today that explains their options.

Please email schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov if you have further questions.

Thanks for your patience.

90 25 90

Jon Gubera
Chief Accountability Officer
[Indiana Department of Education](#)

jgubera@doe.in.gov
317-234-6849

<2012 Preliminary Grades All Schools 9.21.12 - Summative
Data.xlsx>

Option 1:

Process for calculating a combined school:

1. A school that includes elementary and middle school grades but not high school grades will receive a single performance and improvement category grade under this rule
2. (h) A school that includes elementary or middle school grades and high school grades will receive a single performance and improvement category grade as described in subsections (i) through (k)
 - a. (i) The ...grade for a school described in subsection (h) shall be based on the elementary, middle, and high school scores weighted by the percentages determined by the following:
 - i. The number of students enrolled in grades 3 through 8...
 - ii. The number of students in the cohorts for grades 9 through 12...
 - b. (j) A school's ... grade shall be determined by:
 - i. Multiplying the average of the ELA and Math points for the EMS grades by the percentage of students
 - ii. Multiplying the sum of the **four weighted scores** for the high school by the percentage of students

wkrebs 9/13/12 3:48 PM

Comment [1]: This definition excludes John Marshall because it does not include middle school grades.

wkrebs 9/13/12 3:44 PM

Comment [2]: This is a loophole. Christel House doesn't have the four weighted scores, so you can't calculate the combined school grade with this methodology.

wkrebs 9/13/12 3:48 PM

Comment [3]: This loophole would only apply to combined schools that have grade configurations that do not include all the four measures in the high school model.

wkrebs 9/13/12 3:47 PM

Comment [4]: This process would still apply to John Marshall because it is not a combined school.

wkrebs 9/13/12 3:49 PM

Comment [5]: Christel House is not a high school because it includes grades other than 9,10,11, and 12.

Process for calculating Grade 9 and 10 High schools:

1. The ... **grade** of a **high school** that does not include grade 12 shall be based solely on the ELA and Math ECA as determined under this section. Each score shall be weighted with a multiplier of .50. The grade assigned by the board shall be determined by the sum of the two (2) weighted scores in accordance with the scale in subsection (y).

Open questions:

1. How many schools that had been calculated via the combined calculation will now be calculated solely on the EMS model? In other words, how many schools have middle school grades and high school grades but not 12th grade? **13**

Richmond Academy

Christel House Academy

Hammond Academy of Science & Tech

Indpls Lighthouse Charter School

Hoosier Acad Virtual Charter Sch

Gary Lighthouse Charter School

West Gary Lighthouse

LEAD College Prep

Anderson Preparatory Academy

Indiana Math & Science Academy

Indiana Connections Academy
International School of Columbus
Eman Schools

There are only 6 high schools that will be calculated on the 9&10 model only

2. If this loophole isn't closed, will it incentivize schools to adopt a 6-10 grade configuration? **Not in the immediate if we don't advertise this everywhere.**
3. Would Christel House receive a separate grade for its 9th and 10th graders or would it be labeled as "incomplete"? **no additional grade, no label....the school is one school so it would receive that one grade.**
4. We could close this loophole through a rule revision and create a provision for high schools open for less than three years. **When we re-open the rule this fall we should consider this**

Option 2:

Christel House's website mentions *Watanabe High School* as part of the academy. This begs the question, "why are we calculating it as a combined school?" Yes, Christel House has only one school ID number, but we could either a.) infer that it is actually 2 schools and calculate an EMS grade and a HS grade; or b.) give Watanabe High School a new school ID number.